

Preparing for A-Level Product Design at All Saints Catholic High School

At GCSE you have covered a lot of the design process and general technical knowledge. GCSE has provided a breadth of study, whereas A Level will now enable you to gain greater independence and creativity when exploring a design brief along with exploring technical knowledge in greater detail. The best Product Designers at A Level keep researching new products and technological advancements. They generally seek to improve their creative skills, technical knowledge and the ability to work to a design brief. This guide has been designed for you to be able to dip in and out of, from looking at design issues to developing your ability to think like a Product Designer, through to starting to explore some of the skills and technical knowledge we will be looking at in Year 12 and 13.

Below includes, websites, books, documentaries which provide a great way of staying inspired and engaging with Product Design.

VIDEOS



- Design skills- A series of videos which will allow you to practice your designing skills. Build your confidence and have a go!
<https://www.youtube.com/user/camtopher>
- Product Tank – A series of episodes based on product design.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CnKeVs-9zs>
- Dieter Rams 10 Principles for good design – a video based on the incredible designer Dieter Rams and his principles for good design. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-mIAdcQZZAM>
- The future of design – A video where WIRED speaks with Oliver Grabes, Design Director at Braun, about what the future holds for design and technology.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FwvLkmdV9QA>
- Google Sketch up tutorials – How to make furniture – Download Google sketch for free and practice your CAD skills using the tutorial link. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JFA7PCXRiSU> ,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cDbAZExb2iM> ,
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGhaeLaTWWQ&list=RDCMUCyRg6E5LC5XXirMtKkQZ48w&start_radio=1#t=0

ONLINE READING MATERIALS



- Design Museum: Contemporary Design - The Design Museum is an important record of the key designs which have shaped the modern world.
<https://designmuseum.org/new-design-museum>
- The Design Council - Design Council's purpose is to make life better by design.
<https://www.designcouncil.org.uk/>
- Design Mine - Design Mine is the IOM3 space for news, events and features content related to design.
<https://www.iom3.org/design-mine>
- HowStuffWorks - The Tech Channel covers all the gadgets and technology you could wish to know about. <https://electronics.howstuffworks.com/tech>
- New Designs - Full of disruptive thinking, ambitious ideas and fresh approaches, New Designers presents the work of 3,000 hand-picked graduate design talents from around the country.
<https://www.newdesigners.com/>
- Core77 - https://www.core77.com/Product-Design/?utm_source=navigation

PRODUCT DESIGN RELATED TV PROGRAMS

There are some great Product Design TV programs which will help develop your knowledge and understanding and help you see technology and problem solving in context.



The following are available on BBC IPlayer

- Handmade - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b05tpx1l/handmade-2-wood>
- How to make - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000hbdk/how-to-make-series-1-3-headphones>
- The Repair Shop - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000bh8b/the-repair-shop-series-5-episode-3>

The following are all available on All 4

- How to build - <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/how-to-build>
- Grand Designs - <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/grand-designs/>
- Grand Designs – The street - <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/grand-designs-the-street>
- George Clarke’s Amazing Spaces - <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/george-clarke-amazing-spaces>
- George Clarke’s Old House, New Home - <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/george-clarke-old-house-newhome>
- Impossible Builds - <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/impossible-builds>
- Inside Bentley : A great British motor car - <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/inside-bentley-a-great-britishmotor-car>
- Speed with Guy Martin - <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/speed-with-guy-martin>
- Guy Martin: The worlds fastest van - <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/guy-martin-the-worlds-fastest-van>
- Guy Martin vs the robotic car - <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/guy-martin-vs-the-robot-car>
- Gadget Man - <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/gadget-man>
- Building Giants - <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/building-giants>

ONLINE DESIGN MUSEUMS YOU CAN VISIT

- Design Museum: Contemporary Design - <https://designmuseum.org/new-design-museum>
- Centre for Alternative Technology - <https://www.cat.org.uk/> Inspired by design - <https://www.inspired-by-design.co.uk/>
- Victoria and Albert Museum - <https://www.vam.ac.uk/>
- Bauhaus Archive - <https://www.bauhaus.de/de/>
- Vitra Design Museum – <https://www.design-museum.de/en/information.html>
- The Design Museum , Helsinki- <https://www.designmuseum.fi/en/>
- The museum of design, Zurich - <https://museum-gestaltung.ch/en/>



WIDER READING

Books

- Books Advanced Design & Technology, Longman, 582 32831 4
- Product Modelling, Oxford, 19 832761 7
- Design in Society, Oxford, 19 832779 X
- Human Factors, Oxford, 19 832783 8
- Product Design, Hodder, 19 832784
- Advanced Manufacturing D&T, Hodder, 340 70528 0
- The Sustainability Handbook, Practical Action, 1853396702
- Ecological Design - Sim Van der Ryn, Stuart Cowan



- Genius of Design - Penny Sparke.
- Design Sketching (ISBN 978-91-976807-0-7) by Erik Olofsson and Klara Sjolen

Magazines

- Which Magazine
- Design Week
- New Design
- Design, Design Council Journal
- New Scientist
- Wallpaper magazine
- Core77
- Blue print